10/13/71

Dear Sylvia,

I'm sorry I can't phone you and have insufficient time to tell you all. I am also sorry Ned phoned you. Because we are working on something together, he is the only one of us I told about Cyril's plans and inadvertently disclosed to me by someone involved in them. I had a high opinion of Cyril in every way, and in most ways still do. I've seen others bug-bitten, have lived with this as you will never be able to imagine. I fear it is an occupational hazard of our small band.

Let me tell you just a few things, and I ask that this go no farthur than you. I am sending a copy to Ned only.

I wrote Cyril a long letter about this. He has not responded. My information is specific. I will be attempting to follow it further, hopefully this week.

I have been in close touch with Cyril, have disclosed much of what I have learned and worked on to him, and have had no meaningful response. There came a time when all he'd say is how great I am. In my condition, that is like an extra head-hole. Simple promises he has made and not kept.

He never told me that he'd apply under the contract. But almost everyone else did. Some time ago, baffled that he would consider an association in this work so one-way with his great intelligence and competence to match, I made a suggestion of something we could now do, he and I tougther, that has the possibility of breaking this whole thing open. It is genuine. No response.

I also felt that when I gave him the whole testimony he gave in Judge Halleck's court, as I did when, after I sent him the panel report he scanned it in such haste he saw nothing in it, and when I kept inviting him here to see what I was developing (he said he would but never did), he'd not apply without consulting with me.

This can still all be innocent enough on his part. But the consequences on of what can happen beginning in two weeks and two days, whether through him or Nichols or others can't be. You have not thought what you regard as "impossibilities" through. Agreed that it is unlikely the government will do what is in question. But suppose they <u>now</u> do do it? Have you begun your thinking there?

Cyril also declined to be an expert witness for me in my suit for pictures of the clothing. I never told you because his expressed reason was how busy he is. I could only wonder if money means that much to him and he has the enunciated principles. But I kept him informed nonetheless. I was aware of the risk to my literary property, to any chance of recovering the great cost of all of what I have done. What is on paper you can soon enough seen, for I've finihsed the last part of POST MORTEM, and you can soon enough see the kind of "defeat" I had in court when I was all alone, having to be my own lawyer when we have lawyers supposedly among us. I have other suits I could have filed long ago, but except for one, in this area there all hold great risk for us, so I've not filed the simplest, even though they have the potential of great publicity, something not often afforded us. That one is so complicated I was reluctant to be my own lawyer. I have exhausted all the preliminaries. I have a way of getting the pictures and X-rays legally. The context is the hazard and the important thing...I've too many things I must do today and I must leave for DC in the a.m. Let me remind you of but a single thing: do you recall how long I've been asking you to find time to come so I could show you what I was developing? When you see what I have, you'll understand that at this point there is not much we'll learn from the pix and X-rays now. But there is the possibility of switching sheeps and goats, of ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ villains becoming heros and the innocent further victimized. Please let the Cyril thing rest where it is. I certainly will do nothing to hurt him, but if he is off on an ego-trip, somehow I must stop it. This does not involve any possible hurt to him. However, ot us it does. There still remains th the maniac Nichols and any who can be setup, like another Fisher. But if you hear anything...